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*Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.

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1 - Cannon AFB water passes tests, Albuquerque Journal, 4/5/19

https://www.abgjournal.com/1299817/cannon-afb-water-passes-tests.html

Testing by the New Mexico Environment Department detected little or no contamination in drinking water systems at or near Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis.

2 - Questa Superfund updates scheduled for next week, Taos News, 4/4/19

https://www.taosnews.com/stories/questa-superfund-update-scheduled-for-next-week,56136

A meeting to discuss cleanup efforts on the Questa Superfund site, the shuttered Chevron molybdenum mine, is scheduled for next Thursday (April 11). The informational meeting will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Questa VFW Post 7688, located at 2597 North State Road 522, Questa.

3 – Farwell secures funding to replace wastewater treatment system, ABC News 7, 4/4/19

https://abc7amarillo.com/news/local/farwell-secures-funding-to-replace-wastewater-treatment-system
The City of Farwell has a solution to the problem with its Waste Water Treatment Plant. The city was recently approved for a \$1.5 million loan to provide financial help in paying for upgrades to the facility.

4 – Lawmakers seek full health coverage for those exposed to PFAS, KRQE (Video), 4/4/19

https://www.krqe.com/news/new-mexico/lawmakers-seek-full-health-coverage-for-those-exposed-to-pfas/1900960925

Lawmakers are pushing for full health coverage for those exposed to a dangerous chemical found in the groundwater at Air Force bases, including two in New Mexico.

5 – KMCO plant now safe for investigators to enter, ABC 13 (Video), 4/4/19

https://abc13.com/kmco-plant-now-safe-for-investigators-to-enter/5234379/

Two days after a deadly explosion rocked Crosby, clean-up workers are still at the KMCO facility. Firefighters battled the fire at 16503 Ramsey Road, just off the Crosby Freeway in east Harris County for more than five hours on Tuesday.

6 – Tar Creek Receives a Positive Grade, Four States Home Page, 4/4/19

https://www.fourstateshomepage.com/news/tar-creek-receives-a-positive-grade/1901195904

Tar Creek is one of two Superfund Sites in the nation removed from the EPA administrator's Emphasis List The list began in 2017 showcasing the worst Superfund sites needing immediate and intense action.

Cannon AFB water passes tests

By Scott Turner / Journal Staff Writer

Published: Friday, April 5th, 2019 at 12:02am Updated: Thursday, April 4th, 2019 at 9:59pm

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Tes ng by the New Mexico Environment Department detected li le or no contamina on in drinking water systems at or near Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis.

The results were from samples taken in March out of the base's public water system, as well as results of Cannonarea sampling of drinking water systems in November – soon a. er the Environment Department learned of the contamina on by perfluorinated and polyfluorinated substances, or PFAS.

The department released the results Wednesday.

"The data ... represents 28 samples taken from 22 localons within public drinking water systems," Environment Department spokeswoman Maddy Hayden said. "The New Mexico Environment Department and other state agencies will con! nue to use the best available science and data to determine a path forward that is protective of both public health and the environment."

Results from both sampling events indicate that PFAS were not detectable in most of the drinking water systems that were tested, and no federal health advisory levels were exceeded.

Low concentral ons of some PFAS were detected in samples collected from Turquoise Estates drinking water system, but these were below EPA health advisory levels.

The Environment Department and the state All orney General's Office filed suit against the Air Force last month, alleging violallons of the state's Hazardous Waste Act and that contaminal on at Cannon Air Force Base and Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo consil tutes an imminent and substantal danger to communities on and off base.

The suit claims public and private water sources have been contaminated with concentra ons of PFAS.

The Air Force has since filed a countercomplaint.

PFAS are suspected carcinogens that were in fire-suppressant foam formerly used by the Air Force.

Hayden said, "We are sell in the inited stages of both the complaint filed by the Air Force against NMED challenging the (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) Corrective Action Permit as well as the complaint NMED and the New Mexico Atlorney General filed against the Air Force seeking a finding of imminent and substantial endangerment and order for injunctive relief."

Mark Kinkade, a spokesman with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, said the Air Force couldn't comment on pending ligaron, but he told the Journal last month that the Air Force responded aggressively to the contaminaron.

During a Senate Appropria@ons Commi@ee hearing Wednesday, U.S. Environmental Protec@on Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler told U.S. Sen. Tom Udall, D-N.M., that the EPA would technically and legally support the Environment Department in the enforcement of the PFAS contamina@on at Cannon and Holloman Air Force bases.

The Air Force no@fied the state about the contamina@on at Cannon in 2018.

In November, the Environment Department issued a "no2ce of viola2on" to the base a. er tests showed that dozens of private wells, including two that supply dairies, had PFAS levels three 2mes the advisory level.

The Environment Department will host a public mee@ng on April 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Dr. Jay Gurley Town Hall Room at Clovis Community College concerning the test results and other topics related to PFAS contamina@on on and around Cannon Air Force Base. The mee@ng will be held in coopera@on with the New Mexico Departments of Health and Agriculture and the A@orney General's Office.

Contact the writer.

Auto Racing

Sterling Marlin undergoing deep brain stimulation surgery

14 hrs ago

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Two-time Daytona 500 winner Sterling Marlin has been undergoing deep brain stimulation surgery as part of his treatment for Parkinson's disease. Marlin's daughter, Sutherlin House, announced Thursday that Marlin completed the third of four surgery stages this week at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He began the surgery stages

Boogity! Boogity! Waltrip set to retire

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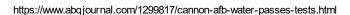
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Questa Superfund updates scheduled for next week



(/uploads/original/20190404-143802-935201_QuestaMine.jpg)

A 2003 aerial view of the Chevron molybdenum mine near Questa.

NEW MEXICAN FILE PHOTO

Posted Thursday, April 4, 2019 2:39 pm

Staff report

A meeting to discuss cleanup efforts on the Questa Superfund site, the shuttered Chevron molybdenum mine, is scheduled for next Thursday (April 11).

The informational meeting will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Questa VFW Post 7688, located at 2597 North State Road 522, Questa.

The meeting is being hosted by the EPA, Chevron, the New Mexico Environment Department and the New Mexico Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources, according to an announcement from the EPA.

For more information, contact Gary Baumgarten, EPA Remedial Project Manager at Baumgarten. Gary@epa.gov; Janetta Coats, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator at Coats. Janetta@epa.gov; or Joseph Fox, NMED Project Manage at Joseph. Fox@state.nm.us.



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Farwell secures funding to replace wastewater treatment system

by Drew Powell Thursday, April 4th 2019

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FARWELL, Texas (KVII) — The City of Farwell has a solution to the problem with its Waste Water Treatment Plant. The city was recently approved for a \$1.5 million loan to provide financial help in paying for upgrades to the facility.

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Stanton tells ABC 7 News with the help of a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, a number of significant upgrades can be done to the facility that has exceeded it's useful life.

"Well, it will be all of our pumps in our lagoons," said Stanton. "Right now we'll be lining and cleaning the lagoons and relining them and will be adding one lagoon."

"If we get a new sewer plant we're going to get a lift station so we can have accurate measure on the water that comes into the lagoons," said Elpidio Banuelos, Head of Public Works for City of Farwell. "Hopefully we get a new lagoon and when we get to clean all this one, the old ones, there's a lot of slush in there."

The system is currently operating under a conditional permit from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The city will have 20 years to pay back the loan.

"We've had grants before but we've never had to go out and just outright borrow money to do an update or any kind of an update here in the city of Farwell," said Stanton.

Pending approval from the EPA, work will begin in June and is expected to be completed by the summer of next year.

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KMCO plant now safe for investigators to enter



WATCH LOG IN



More lawsuits have been filed against KMCO.

By Miya Shay

Thursday, April 4th, 2019 5:56PM

CROSBY, Texas (KTRK) -- Two days after a deadly explosion rocked Crosby, clean-up workers are still at the KMCO facility.

Firefighters battled the fire at 16503 Ramsey Road, just off the Crosby Freeway in east Harris County for more than five hours on Tuesday.

One man was killed in the blast and two others were seriously injured.

At least two lawsuits have been filed on behalf of workers injured during the blast. Jason Itkin is representing one contractor.

"He's got orthopedic injuries he's got hearing loss, really shook up as well," said Itkin.

Itkin says his client, a 32-year-old man, was about 75 feet from the blast and they want to know, how the blast happened.

"All of the sudden out of nowhere there's a giant explosion, there's fire, you're running for your life and all you're trying to do is get to safety," said Itkin.

Both the EPA and Harris County fire marshalls remain on site, but the company says the facility is now stable.

Though the plant remains closed, environmental experts say it's just a matter of time before state regulators allow KMCO to reopen.

"I think they're able to be in operation because TCEQ does not enforce when these type of facilities have violations," said Bakeyah Nelson of Air Alliance Houston.

Follow Miya Shay on Facebook and Twitter.

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